

**The Evening Herald.**

Published by  
The Evening Herald, Inc.  
George S. Vaillant, Manager.  
H. H. Steiner, Editor.  
Official Paper of the City of  
Albuquerque.

Published every afternoon except Sunday, at 124 North Second Street, Albuquerque, N. M.

Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice at Albuquerque, N. M., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

One month by mail or carrier \$6.00  
One week by carrier ..... \$1.00  
One year by mail or carrier  
in advance ..... \$6.00

Telephone 167 and 168.

## NOT SO BAD.

**D**URING the Pullman company's efforts to correct within thirty days numerous conditions in its service in California, the state railroad commission has issued its findings in an investigation into the practices of the corporation.

The commission lays its greatest emphasis on the inattention of employees to patrons of the company and the inadequacy of the present wage paid to porters, who get just \$27.50 a month, and who thereby are compelled to look to the traveling public for their principal income.

"The Pullman company," says the report, "attempted to make this commission believe the wages it pays its employees are proper, and that it did not expect them to get money from the public. It is hard for us to determine which should be criticized more, the attitude of this company in its action in this regard, or its suggestion that it could make this commission believe a thing which everyone knows is not true."

This commission would accept with better grace a frank statement from the general manager of this company to the effect that this company believes the public will tip, and, therefore, it does not feel that it should be required to pay its porters a proper wage. It may be all right for persons to reward particularly good service with some gratuity, but the Pullman company forces its porters to be generous or not get service.

The vital point of the whole situation is that the settler does reclaim the land, for he meets every expense of converting the arid desert to the fertile farm.

"Having chosen a location for better or worse, the well, corral, barn and home must then follow before the family can establish itself on the farm. Some private road building, bridge making and fencing must also come in here. Time and money must be spent getting in household goods, stock, farm implements, telephone line, chicken houses, etc. Next brush breaking, plowing, leveling, ditching, installing ditch structures and check control boxes can finally be undertaken and the ground made ready for irrigation, re-leveing, re-irrigating and finally seeding.

This statement of sequence of operations is made because nine out of ten of us use our imagination and previous experience so little that we can conceive of simply the cost of putting a scraper on the land and then drilling the seed in. Actually, the conquest of the desert is far from simple. A family establishes itself, must feed and clothe itself, spend money for insurance and on account of sickness, for implements, stock and all the other multifarious wants of a family and a farm. All this must be charged to the capital investment required to transform desert land into an income-producing ranch."

Since the above was printed Congress has passed the bill amending the reclamation act by extending the time of payment for construction over twenty instead of ten years. It is true, to that the government could go further in the way of aid to settlers on raw land, even perhaps as far as the writer suggests. We think, however, that he overstates the difficulties of settling upon land under the government projects. The settler can succeed with a capital of less than \$6,000 if he has ordinary energy and intelligence. We have seen no one but many men who have made splendid successes on raw land who started with not half this sum, and a few who started with nothing at all. The trouble with the government projects is not altogether with the government and the system and the cost. Statements like the above, although exaggerating the dark side of the picture, are not so harmful as the statements made, and which the whole country came to believe when our national reclamation projects were young. Settlers were told that they could go on irrigated land and by turning on the water immediately become rich. A premium was put on business. The result was a rush of settlers and accompanying disappointment and the outcry, since prevalent throughout the east, that the government reclamation projects are failures.

A man who settles under a government irrigation project has to work there, just as he does in the Illinois corn belt, or the Kansas wheat fields. He cannot fold his hands and leave it to the water, the Almighty and the reclamation service. He has to dig and dig intelligently. On projects like the Cimarron in New Mexico we

are beginning to get the "second crop" of land buyers men who know what they are getting and what to do with it after they get it. The result is a prosperous, successful project. The same will be true of the Elkhorn Butte when it is completed. No one can question the success of the Salt River Valley under the Roosevelt project. Very few of the settlers under that project had \$6,000 to start with. Yet it is a variety of unequal promises. In time we will be able to tell the settler just what capital is required for success under a government project; and thereafter the man who works will win and he who waits will fail. Success in this is in any other kind of endeavor rests mainly in the personal equation.

## A JOKE.

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"It is our opinion that the time has passed when institutions such as the Pullman should be permitted by public authority an indulgence which requires its employees to resort to whatever means they have in their power to obtain the necessary amount to enable them to live."

Here is a fair attitude of sympathy alike for the public, forced to pay tips to get service, and for the poor porter who is forced to take them in order to eat and keep his steady income.

The California commission, however, seems to have been aroused to indignation chiefly by the implication of the Pullman attorneys that it was alone in the nation in not knowing of the existence of these conditions. Just cause for resentment.

**THE SKYLINE OF THE FUTURE.**

**N**O ONE has visualized so graphically as Rudyard Kipling the changes that the development of aerial navigation is bound to bring about in human relations and human conceptions. Man's mastery of time and space, with which he dealt so imaginatively and convincingly in "With the Night Mail," furnished the theme of an address recently delivered by this most famous of living English writers before the Royal Geographical Society. Mr. Kipling is quoted as follows:

"The time is near when men will receive their normal impressions of a new country suddenly and in plan, not gradually and in perspective, when the most extreme distances will be brought within the compass of one week's travel; when the word 'impossible,' as applied to any given spot on the surface of the globe, will cease to have any meaning."

Naturally, as long as we travel by sea, we must embark from a port and look out for the landfalls. But the time is not far off when the traveler will know and care just as little whether he is over sea or land as we today know and care whether our steamer is over forty fathoms or the Fuegians Deep. Then we shall hear the last ports of New York and Boston howling like Tarsaudy and Tyrone. Incidentally, too, we shall change all our mental pictures of travel.

"The men of the present are already sounding and reporting along the fantastic skyline of the future. Nearly all that can be accomplished by the old means of exploration has been won. The old mechanism has been scrapped; the moods and emotions that went with it must follow."

**By the Berlin Method.**  
Aunty—Wouldn't you like to study languages, Bobby?  
Bobby—I can talk two languages now, aunty.  
"You can?" What are they?  
"English and baseball."—New York Weekly.

**The Blackfeet Legend  
of the Thunder Bird"**

TRIAL OF THE STAUNTONS.

**T**HIS weird legend of the "Thunder Bird" long regarded as gospel by the Blackfeet Indians of Glacier Park reservation, and much smiled at by the skeptical white men, now seems to be given a concrete foundation in the recent discovery of a specimen of the willow ptarmigan at the highest edge of the timber line on the mountain of Glacier National park.

The bird was found frozen to death and the Indians are now believing that it was struck by the Great Spirit as an offering to the chief Blackfeet tribe. The dead object of awe to the red men was brought to Glacier Park station by Chief Three Bears, who made the trip over the mountains on snowshoes in order to intercept Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern railway, and have him take it to a taxidermist to be preserved. Mr. Hill naturally thought it was just another of the many legendary superstitions of the tribe which holds him up to a reverential height since making him a member of their tribe and giving him the name of "Grey Horse Rider" in recognition of his many benefactions to them. However, he was true to his promise and had his private car set out at Kalispell, Mont., in order to deliver the "sacred bird" to H. P. Stanford, a renowned Rocky Mountain taxidermist. The ornithologist, however, rather took the railway magnate's breath away when, upon examining the dead bird, he exclaimed:

"Why, Mr. Hill, you have got a rare specimen here. It is the willow ptarmigan, which is of great scientific interest among ornithologists. Chapman's Color Key shows the willow ptarmigan has been reported only twice in the United States, once from Maine and once from Massachusetts."

Mr. Hill had not paid close attention to the story the old chief had related to him through the interpreter, so now he had to send a special representative into the interior of Glacier park to find Three Bears and set the old Indian's story geographically. Taxidermist Stanford, who is quite excited over the discovery in bird-dom, eagerly awaits a copy of the written story of the finding of the bird, that he may report the facts to the American Museum of Natural History.

Meanwhile the bird is being set up as true to life as the taxidermist's skill can make it and will be placed in the crutch of the poles of the 100-year-old buffalo-skin tepee which has been pitched on exhibition in the forest lobby of the big log hotel at the eastern gateway to Uncle Sam's newest national park, because the grandfather of old Chief Three Bears, who headed the Indian council which used to pass the pipe of peace in this ancient shelter role, was the chief figure in the legend of the "Thunder Bird." Here is the translated story of the "Thunder Bird" which old Three Bears faithfully repeats to this day:

"Long ago there was an old man who was called Four Bears. When he was a young man the Blackfeet were camping on the river. It was in summer. The long-timer had commenced. In the morning, when he went for the horses to bring them into the camp, he came to this river. He saw there was a bird that was sitting near the edge of the water. He walked towards it. When he was looking at it, then he knew that the bird did not belong to this country. Its feathers were all of different colors, its bill was green-colored, its legs were colored the same. It had three claws. It would not open its eye (literally, look). He then caught it. Then he took it home. When he entered, all the chiefs were invited. They all entered. The bird sat at the upper end of the lodge. He told these chiefs: 'Now here is a bird, that you may look at it to know what it is. It was not known (nobody could tell what kind of bird it was). After a long while Four Bears pushed it. When it opened its eyes (literally, looked), then it flashed lightning. The flap of the tepee lay open. The bird flew towards the door. When it opened its eyes (literally, looked) again, then it flashed lightning again. When it flew then the thunder roared. That way the thunder was born.'

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**THIRTY HOME GARDENERS.**

There is but one practical solution of the high cost of living and that is to raise your own produce. The home garden is a great measure will do it effectively. It will stop the paying of money to the vegetable man and the grocer—a big saving. And those who are so situated that they can raise their own poultry and eggs, milk and butter, and a pig or two for winter use, but also some vegetables which can store away such as potatoes, tomatoes, beans and carrots.

Here are 100s help as possible. Let most of the work be done by yourself and your family. If you want to make your garden pay.

And as you watch things grow under your care, consider likewise how your bank account will grow with your constant attention and the compound interest which the bank pays on deposits.

E. D. MacGREGOR.

**Talks on Thrift**

A Glimpse of

**Great Trials of History**

THE STAUNTONS.

**T**HE close to 40 years since the famous trial of the Stauntons in England was being followed with marked attention throughout the English-speaking world as one of the most remarkable murder trials that had been held previously or since then. It was only by mere chance that the discovery was made that the death of Mrs. Harriet Staunton had been regular, not that there was a tragedy back of it.

The bird was found frozen to death and the Indians are now believing that it was struck by the Great Spirit as an offering to the chief Blackfeet tribe. The dead object of awe to the red men was brought to Glacier Park station by Chief Three Bears, who made the trip over the mountains on snowshoes in order to intercept Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern railway, and have him take it to a taxidermist to be preserved. Mr. Hill naturally thought it was just another of the many legendary superstitions of the tribe which holds him up to a reverential height since making him a member of their tribe and giving him the name of "Grey Horse Rider" in recognition of his many benefactions to them. However, he was true to his promise and had his private car set out at Kalispell, Mont., in order to deliver the "sacred bird" to H. P. Stanford, a renowned Rocky Mountain taxidermist. The ornithologist, however, rather took the railway magnate's breath away when, upon examining the dead bird, he exclaimed:

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**Putting Away the Winter Clothes**

**W. H. HAHN CO.**

insects are likely to congregate.

One should have a large supply of newspapers on hand before beginning the work. Newspapers are much the best for this purpose, as moths are said to have a strong aversion to printer's ink, and that, of itself, acts as a preventive. Each folded article should be wrapped in newspaper, then labeled on large letters on the outside.

It takes but a moment to note the contents of such packages, but it means a great saving of labor.

The result of the coroner's inquest was that on Saturday, May 19, the jury rendered a verdict of wilful murder against the Stauntons and Alice Rhodes. The contradictions between their evidently concerted narrative and the cumulative testimony of a crowd of independent witnesses were overwhelming.

The prisoners were taken to Magdalene jail and on Monday, May 21, they were brought before the bench at Ermley. The hearing of the case was held at various times between that date and June 13, and on the latter date the quartet were committed to the ensuing Kent assizes on charge of murder.

The Kent assizes were held at Magdalene, but so bitter was the public that the court did not believe the prisoners would get a fair trial there, so it was removed to the central criminal court. The trial became known as the Pegeen mystery. Sir Henry Hawkins, the lord chief justice, sat in judgment. Each of the prisoners was separately represented. The trial was postponed several times, but was finally begun on September 19, 1877.

The issue before the jury was explained to them that it was necessary to find out whether Harriet Staunton had met her death through the culpable misconduct of the prisoners, and if so, whether such misconduct amounted to murder or manslaughter. If the deceased was kept without food or otherwise neglected with the design of causing her death, those who assisted the guilty design would be guilty of murder.

Louis Staunton had a married brother by name of Patrick, and after their child was born it was to Patrick that he sent his wife and child to board. From the 22d of October, 1877, to the 12th of April, 1878, Harriet Staunton disappeared from the outer world. The nature of the treatment to which Harriet was subjected during these sad months was strongly disputed at the trial; but it is certain that she was kept in darkness and forbidden to go outside or even out of the house. At any rate, the unfortunate infant of the Louis Staunton died of the treatment.

Finally, when Harriet became so weak and emaciated that she could no longer speak, she was placed in a room on the 12th of April, 1878, in a small room, where she died on April 12. On the 13th the coroner empanelled a jury in order that a post-mortem might be held. It developed that there were no traces of poison or any evidence of violence.

The examination and cross-examination of the witnesses lasted five days, and when the jury retired they were only out an hour and a half, when they brought in a verdict of guilty against all four persons, but recommended the two women to mercy. The judge pronounced death upon all four persons but the public had changed their temper when the two women were to meet their death; and long petitions were circulated to save them. Finally on October 14 the death penalty was remitted, and a fortnight later the sentence of the three Stauntons was commuted to penal servitude for life.

Alice Rhodes received a free pardon and was immediately released. Patrick Staunton died in prison, his wife was released after a few years, and Louis Staunton, after serving a considerably longer term. Mystery will always brood over the Pegeen case.